

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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-----116269 211654Z /50 S,

O R 211210Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1305

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 3259

USUN FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK

SUBJ. RHODESIA - ZANU REPRESENTATIVE IN BOTSWANA WARMS TO

ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVES

REF: (A) LUSAKA 3838, (B) LUSAKA 3851

1. M.J. CHADEMANA, ZANU REPRESENTATIVE IN BOTSWANA (STATIONED IN FRANCISTOWN), VISITED EMBASSY DEC 20. GIST OF HIS MESSAGE WAS THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE UK/US SHOULD COME IN CLOSER CONTACT SO THAT IDEAS COULD BE SHARED AND THE LATTER MIGHT RECEIVE THE CREDIT THEY DESERVE FOR THEIR PEACE INITIATIVES. CLOSER CONTACTS, HE SAID, WOULD ALSO HELP RELIEVE MISUNDERSTANDINGS BY SHOWING THE FREEDOM FORCES THAT THE AMERICANS AND THE BRITISH WOULD NOT SUPPORT A BOGUS INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, UNACCEPTABLE TO THE OAU, WHICH EXCLUDED THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL ZIMBABWEANS AND WHICH WOULD RESULT ONLY IN THE PRESERVATION
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OF MINORITY RULE.

2. HE SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR FROM THE EMBOFF THAT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN WAS STILL IN TACT, WOULD NOT BE ALTERED TO LEGITIMIZE A BOGUS INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND THAT A NEW ANGLO-AMERICAN PEACE INITIATIVE WAS IMMINENT. IN THIS REGARD, CHADEMANA EMPHASIZED HIS VIEW THAT BOTH THE DRIFT OF THE PRESENT

INTERNAL SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND KAUNDA'S PROPOSAL FOR FORE-STALLING ELECTIONS RAN COUNTER TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

3. FINALLY, CHADEMANA STATED THAT THE FEAR OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS WELL AS KAUNDA'S UNFORTUNATE VIEWS ON POSTPONING ELECTIONS HAD FORCED MUZOREWA AND OTHERS TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE WITH SMITH.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE A FEW GENERAL RESERVATIONS WHICH CHADEMANA EXPRESSED ON BRITISH UNTRUSTWORTHINESS, WE WERE STRUCK BY HIS WARM ATTITUDE TOWARD THE IDEA OF COMING ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVES. NO DOUBT, THIS FRIENDLINESS, IN PART, WAS GENERATED BY THE SPECTRES OF A SMITH SUCCESS IN SALISBURY AND OF KAUNDA'S RIGGING AN INDEPENDENCE ON BEHALF OF NKOMO. IF CHADEMANA'S PRESENTATION IS ANY INDICATION, THE ZANU SIDE OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT MAY BE READY TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROPOSALS.
ALBERTI

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O - MS. KENNEDY.

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